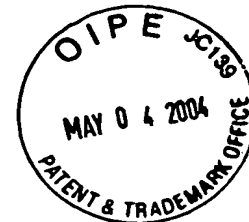


Docket No. 246303US3X/phh



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Yoshiaki KINEMUCHI, et al.

SERIAL NO: 10/726,539

GAU: 1772

FILED: December 4, 2003

EXAMINER:

FOR: GRADING POROUS STRUCTURE AND ITS PROCESS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

REFERENCES

- ☒ The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed references are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references.
- ☐ A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

RELATED CASES

- ☐ Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. A copy of the patent(s), together with a copy of the claims and drawings of the pending application(s) is attached along with PTO 1449.
- ☐ A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

CERTIFICATION

- ☐ Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- ☐ No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

- ☒ Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check or credit card payment is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

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DOCKET NO.: 246303US3X/phh

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**STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY**

References AO (JP 11-176451), AP (JP 2003-11099), and AQ (JP 7-62470) on Form PTO-1449 are discussed in the specification.

Form PTO 1449  
(Modified)DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY DOCKET NO.

246303US3X

SERIAL NO.

10/726,539

## LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT

APPLICANT

Yoshiaki KINEMUCHI, et al.

FILING DATE

December 4, 2003

GROUP

1772

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION	
					YES	NO
	AO	11-176451	07/02/1999	JAPAN (with English Abstract)		X
	AP	2003-11099	01/15/2003	JAPAN (with English Abstract)		X
	AQ	7-62470	03/07/1995	JAPAN (with English Abstract)		X
	AR					
	AS					
	AT					
	AU					
	AV					

## OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	AW	Publication of Tokai Branch Meeting of the Ceramic Society of Japan, 4 pages, "MANUFACTURING OF POROSITY GRADING CERAMICS BY CENTRIFUGAL SINTERING", December 6, 2002 (with English translation)				
	AX					
	AY					
	AZ					<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached

Examiner

Date Considered

\*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.